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P R O C E E D I N G S
OF THE
FIFTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

A L A B A M A

Baptist State Convention,

HELD WITH THE

TALLADEGA BAPTIST CHURCH,

TALLADEGA, ALA.,

July 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st,

1878.

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MARION, ALA.;
COMMONWEALTH JOB PRINT.

1878.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. READING, SINGING AND PRAYER.
2. ENROLL DELEGATES AND LIFE MEMBERS.
3. ELECT OFFICERS.
4. RECEIVE CORRESPONDENTS AND VISITORS.
5. APPOINT COMMITTEES.
 1. ON PRACTICING.
 2. " FINANCE.
 3. " NOMINATING OFFICERS OF CONVENTION.
 4. " " DELEGATES TO SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.
 5. " " STATE MISSION BOARD.
6. REPORTS.
 1. OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HOWARD COLLEGE.
 2. " " " " FEMALE COLLEGES.
 3. " STATE MISSION BOARD.
 4. " BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
 5. " BOARD OF EDUCATION.
7. APPOINT CORRESPONDENTS TO OTHER BODIES.
8. " TIME AND PLACE FOR NEXT CONVENTION.
9. " STANDING COMMITTEES.
10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.
 1. ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.
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 5. " NOMINATING OFFICERS OF CONVENTION.
 6. " " DELEGATES TO SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.
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11. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.
12. REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.
13. REPORT OF TREASURER.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS.

Fifty-Fifth Annual Session.

MONDAY SESSION.

TALLADEGA, ALA., July 18, 1878.

The opening exercises were conducted by the Rev. E. B. Teague, D. D.

Upon the call of the President, Hon. Jonathan Haralson, the following Delegates presented their names for enrollment, to-wit:

ASSOCIATIONS.

- Alabama—E. F. Baber, W. P. Bullock, Alfred Edwards, Rev. J. B. Hawthorne, Rev. B. A. Jackson.
Bethel—Rev. P. E. Kirven, J. G. McCuskey.
Bethlehem—Rev. W. G. Curry.
Bigbee—I. C. Brown, J. G. Harris, W. T. Simmons.
Boiling Spring—J. H. Abel, J. E. Coleman.
Coosa River—W. F. McCain, P. Castleberry, W. W. Kidd, J. D. Clough, L. Merkle, S. G. Jenkins, C. R. Cross, L. Law, B. M. Flunker, J. B. Pope, J. E. Welch.
Cedar Bluff—J. H. Kinnebrew.
Cahaba—W. C. Ward, W. W. Wilkerson, Jr., C. L. Winkler, Porter King, Jr., Rev. T. M. Bailey, Rev. E. T. Winkler, D. D.
Cahaba Valley—R. W. Inzer, Madison Hendrix.
Cumann—R. W. Beck, J. L. Watson, M. M. Wood, T. V. B. Moor, W. H. Wood, A. J. Nunnelly, N. F. Miles.
Carey—Rev. J. W. Knowles, A. R. Whited, J. L. Williams, J. T. Ashcraft.
Centennial—Rev. T. W. Tobey, M. N. Eley, J. P. W. Brown, W. M. Thornton, A. J. Slaughter.
Central—Rev. H. C. Taul, J. McCord.
Eufaula—Rev. O. F. Gregory, W. H. Patterson, B. B. Davis, J. S. Paullin, W. S. Rogers, M. L. Long, J. A. B. Besson, Eli S. Shorter.

Liberty East—J. P. Shaffer.

Mulberry—Joab Langston, A. F. L. Head.

New River—Rev. J. B. Huckabee, J. E. Bell, G. W. Gravellee, J. B. Ferguson, M. Morris, M. Sherry, M. Melton, C. J. Knight, C. W. Hare.

Salem—J. S. Yarbrough.

Shelby—J. G. Sayres.

Tallasahatchee—John A. Scott.

Tuskaloosa—J. F. Lanneau, W. W. Sanders, J. H. Foster.

Tuskegee—Rev. I. T. Tichenor, Z. D. Rody, R. R. Varner.

Unity—J. H. Burns, Jr.

Warrior River—Rev. P. M. Musgrove, V. H. Dean, H. W. Watson, H. M. Cornelius.

CHURCHES.

Alpine—James Headen, Henry Burt, W. T. Webb, Rev. S. Henderson, D. D., W. A. Welch.

Ash Creek—Alfred Edwards.

Ashville—P. S. Montgomery, J. N. Montgomery.

Birmingham—J. H. Hendon, N. F. Miles, E. R. Todd.

Bethany, Lowndes Co.—E. F. Baber.

Bethsaida, Lowndes Co.—E. J. Forrester, D. P. Goodhue.

Cahaba, Jefferson Co.—Joseph Martin, Benj. Carlisle, *D. Vann.

Columbiana—W. H. Kidd, W. McMath.

Clayton—J. S. Paullin.

Cross Plains—H. A. Williams.

Eufaula—Rev. O. F. Gregory, J. A. B. Besson, Col. Eli S. Shorter, Rev. W. H. Patterson.

Evergreen—E. R. Farnham.

Enon, Wilcox Co.—C. W. Hare.

Fayetteville—J. E. Bell.

Fellowship—C. J. Knight.

Fort Williams—G. S. Ham, J. P. Burke.

Gadsden—M. E. Lane.

Greenville—B. H. Crumpton.

Georgiana—B. B. Williams.

Hopewell, Perry Co.—J. L. West, R. F. Walker.

Hebron—Luther Owens, R. McDaniel.

Harpersville—J. P. Fluker, E. C. Lide, T. J. Martin, R. B. Posey, H. P. Watson.

Harmony—John A. Scott.

Jacksonville—J. S. Dill, Robert Smyley.

Lineville, Clay Co.—Robert Griffin, L. S. Weaver, W. T. Davis, J. B. Jenkins, G. B. Jenkins.

Livingston—J. A. Howard, I. C. Brown, J. G. Harris.

Montgomery 1st—J. B. Guy, T. H. Reynolds, W. T. Hatchett, J. C. Stratford, T. L. Jones, W. L. Chandler, R. H. Moulton, W. B. Davidson.

Macedonia, Bullock Co.—J. L. Sampey.

Mumford—S. Hall.

Montevallo—H. C. Reynolds.

Midway and Mt. Carmel—J. P. W. Brown.

Mt. Carmel, Marshall Co.—O. H. Alford.
 Mt. Zion, Calhoun Co.—J. M. Crook, A. W. Ledbetter, W. G. Ledbetter.
 Mt. Zion, Talladega Co.—W. Wilkes, J. L. Wilkes, B. M. Fluker, H. S. Darby, J. A. Powe.
 Mobile, St. Francis St.—C. E. Thames, J. O'B. Lowry, A. P. Bush, T. B. Thames, O. A. Elston.
 Mobile, Palmetto St.—T. B. Thames.
 Mountain Creek—E. F. Baber.
 Oxford—E. T. Smith, J. C. Wright, T. P. Gwin, J. S. Kelley.
 Pleasant Grove, Talladega Co.—I. K. Elliott, T. T. Elliott, T. W. Ogletree, T. Gover.
 Providence—Wm. Day.
 Roanoke—J. P. Shaffer.
 Union Springs—M. N. Eley, T. W. Toby.
 Ruhama—W. H. Wood, R. W. Beek, M. M. Wood.
 Ramah, Montgomery Co.—B. A. Jackson.
 Springville—T. V. B. Moor, A. J. Nunnelly, N. B. Williams, J. D. Bradford.
 Steep Creek—W. P. Bullock.
 Salem—J. L. Watson, W. C. Franklin.
 Selma—T. S. Bowen, H. A. Haralson, H. S. D. Mallory, G. W. Siddons, W. P. Welch.
 Siloam—Rev. L. R. Gwaltney, Alfred Lawson, T. J. Dill, John G. Apsey, Col. J. T. Murfee, J. B. Fiquet, C. G. Hare.
 Tuscaloosa—W. W. Sanders, J. H. Foster.
 Tallahatchee—S. B. Glazener, Geo. F. Thomas, G. S. Glazener, W. E. Sherill.
 Talladega—W. R. Stone, John Henderson, J. W. Bishop, P. G. Stringer, L. W. Lawler.
 Spring Creek—I. R. W. Lewis, J. S. Elliott.

LIFE MEMBERS.

A. B. Goodhue, W. B. Haralson, E. B. Teague, Porter King, R. C. Keeble, Jonathan Haralson, S. G. Jenkins.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

Georgia Baptist State Convention—S. J. Whatley, Rev. J. M. Robertson, Rev. W. N. Chaudoin, Andrew Braxton, J. H. Word.

Mississippi Baptist State Convention—Joel Towers, A. P. Bush.

Ladies' Missionary Society, Montevallo—Mrs. N. Reynolds, Miss N. Reynolds.

Ladies' Missionary Society, Livingston—I. C. Brown.

Ladies' Benevolent Society, Montgomery—Rev. J. B. Hawthorne, D. D.

Ladies' Helping Hand Society, Eufaula—Rev. O. F. Gregory.

Ann Haseltine Society, Judson Female Institute—Rev. L. R. Gwaltney, D. D.

Organized by electing by acclamation Hon. Jonathan Haralson President, A. B. Goodhue, Secretary, and B. B. Davis, Assistant Secretary.

Words of welcome were uttered by Rev. J. J. D. Renfroe, and responded to by the President.

Adjourned to 3 P. M. Prayer by Rev. P. M. Musgrove.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by Rev. T. W. Tobey.

The President announced the following Committees:

On Preaching—The Pastor and Deacons of the Talladega Church, H. A. Haralson, M. L. Long, J. S. Kelley.

On Finance—T. L. Jones, R. W. Beck, A. Lawson, W. P. Bullock, T. V. B. Moor, A. J. Slaughter, H. W. Watson.

To nominate the remaining officers of the Convention—W. C. Ward, J. C. Brown, W. S. Rogers, C. E. Thames, H. S. Darby, V. H. Dean.

To nominate Delegates to the S. B. Convention—J. H. Hendon, B. H. Crumpton, W. Wilkes, J. S. Yarbrough, O. A. Elston, J. H. Kinnebrew, H. S. D. Mallory.

To nominate State Mission Board and Board of Education—Z. D. Roby, T. W. Tobey, J. H. Burns, John Henderson, J. G. McCaskey, J. P. W. Brown, T. P. Gwin.

The report of the Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board was read, and on motion, an opportunity was offered to the Missionaries of the Board to make statements of facts connected with their work.

Such statements were made by Rev. H. A. Williams, Rev. J. S. Yarbrough, Rev. W. G. Curry, Rev. W. Wilkes, Rev. P. E. Kirven, and Rev. E. F. Baber, and the report was referred to a special committee, consisting of Col. Eli S. Shorter, Rev. E. B. Tengue, W. C. Ward, Z. D. Roby, J. G. Harris, J. H. Kinnebrew, and H. W. Watson.

Report of Board of Trustees of Howard College read and referred to Committee on Education.

Report of Committee to nominate the remaining officers of the Convention adopted as follows, to-wit:

Hon. Eli S. Shorter, 1st Vice President.

Major J. G. Harris, 2nd Vice President.

S. H. Fowlkes, Treasurer.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

E. T. Winkler, J. H. Lee, W. W. Wilkerson, C. C. Huckabee, Porter King, John Moore, W. H. Fiquet, J. G. Apsey, J. B. Lovelace, I. B. Vaiden, J. T. Murfee, L. R. Gwaltney.

To preach the Introductory Sermon next session—Rev. J. O'B. Lowry; Rev. W. W. Sanders, Alternate.

The report of Rev. J. L. West, the publisher of the *Alabama Baptist*, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of J. H. Foster, L. W. Lawler, J. B. Hawthorne, A. P. Bush, J. H. Hendon, G. R. Farnham, Porter King.

Finance report of State Mission Board referred to Committee on Finance.

Made the report of the Committee to which was referred the report of the State Mission Board the special order for to-morrow night at 8½ o'clock, and resolved that a mass meeting be held for its consideration.

Appointed Corresponding Messengers to the Georgia Baptist State Convention—O. F. Gregory, J. S. Paullin, B. H. Crumpton, J. B. Hawthorne, B. B. Davis.

To the Mississippi Baptist State Convention—I. C. Brown, J. O'B. Lowry, C. E. Thames, J. G. Harris.

To the Tennessee Baptist State Convention—W. R. Stone, V. H. Dean, P. M. Musgrove.

Received verbal report from J. B. Hawthorne, President of the Board of Education.

Made the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions the special order for to-morrow at 10 A. M.

Made the claims of Howard College the special order for 10 A. M. on Saturday.

Fixed the hours of meeting for the present session at 8½ A. M., and 3 P. M., of adjournment at 12 M., and 5½ P. M.

Resolved, That the first half hour of each morning session be devoted to religious exercises.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. V. H. Dean.

8½ P. M.

Introductory Sermon by Rev. L. R. Gwaltney, D. D.

MORNING SESSION.

FRIDAY, 8½ A. M.

Devotional Exercises conducted by Rev. J. L. Sampey.

Convention called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Sumner.

Minutes read and approved.

Report of the Board of Trustees of the Judson Female Institute referred to the Committee on Education.

Appointed Committee on Education to report the present session—T. B. Thames, P. M. Musgrove, A. Edwards, J. C. Stratford, W. P. Welch, J. E. Welch, R. R. Varner, E. J. Forrester.

Invited Rev. C. M. Booth (col.) to seat as Messenger from the Colored Baptist State Convention.

On motion, resolved, that a committee of five lay members be appointed to report during the present session, upon the duty of providing for the support of aged and infirm ministers, and the widows and children of deceased ministers, and, if deemed advisable, to suggest some plan by which the object may be accomplished—J. G. Harris, R. C. Keeble, R. H. Molton, George Siddons, H. C. Reynolds.

The special order for this hour, 10 A. M. to-wit: the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was read and discussed by Brethren Henderson, Crumpton, Winkler, Gregory, and Harris, and after a collection of \$159.30 in cash, and \$195.25 in pledges, was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The privilege of preaching Christ is not only allowed to his disciples in their own homes, but in the nations beyond. Believing that a succinct statement of facts regarding the work and condition of our Foreign Mission Board, will accomplish more permanent good than any rhetorical arguments, your Committee present the following as their report. We can not but believe, that there is apathy regarding this work, *only* where there is lack of information; and that larger amounts would be raised, and a greater enthusiasm promoted, if pastors would strive to keep themselves and their people thoroughly posted on this great movement for the evangelization of the world.

The Foreign Mission Board of the S. B. C., is doing our work, and we are called upon by every tie of obligation to the Lord Jesus, not only to contribute liberally to its work, but to share in the rewards and glory of its labor. Notwithstanding the fearful monetary pressure that has been upon our country for the past four or five years, the necessities of the Missions have been supplied through the blessing of God, and the untiring labors of our Corresponding Secretary, Rev. H. A. Tupper, D. D. But the present and future work demand renewed exertions and increased contributions.

It is much to be desired that the Foreign Mission *Journal* should be circulated in all our Churches, to the end that knowing the exact condition of the field, their contributions may be regularly and wisely given.

The women of the South have rendered signal aid to the Board, through their societies organized for this purpose.

In Africa, we have two Missionaries and five native assistants. The mission here is on an encouraging foundation, but another man is needed at once in the field. Will the Churches furnish the money? In China, we have three male and six female Missionaries, and nineteen native assistants. Souls have been converted, and good been done. Dr. Yates writes: "May the Lord of the harvest add and multiply his blessings and send more *well qualified* laborers into his vineyard. Oh, that Christians at home could feel that this is *their work*, and we are their messengers, and that we all are co-workers with Christ for the extension of his kingdom."

In Italy, Rev. George B. Taylor is doing a grand work, assisted by eight Italian evangelists. Ten stations are occupied. Thirty-two have been baptized during the past Conventional year. A house of worship has at last been purchased in Rome, and about \$10000 are needed at once to complete the payments therefor. Alabama's quota is \$500; shall we not raise it at once?

We cannot better conclude this report than in the earnest words of Dr. Tupper, with which he closed his report to the Southern Baptist Convention, viz:

"The heathen converts should move us to more self denying acts. The little Church at Lagos, Africa, has given this year for missions, over \$100. Two feeble Chinese Churches of North and South America have contributed some \$160. The native Christians of China have raised \$9,000, which is 75 cents *per capita*. Should the Churches of the Southern Baptist Convention do less for the heathen than the Churches of Africa and China? Should they not be rather stimulated by such examples to fervid zeal and abundant offering? And is there no inspiration in God's signal blessings? For eight years ago a few Bibles were scattered in Rome; and now the light is blazing all over Italy! Despite the war in Africa, our missions are prospered. Recently a wave of Divine influence has swept over parts of China. In one place we hear of 100 converts; in another, 300. In a single region some 1500 inquirers are reported. Must we not re-enforce our stations in China and Africa? Should not the \$6000 needed for our Rome Chapel be raised at once,—even at this meeting? Cocorda says, with regard to the building purchased, we shall have "the first place in Rome." Let the dawning of "better times" be hailed with more liberal offerings, and may not the God of the nations bring in the full day of material prosperity to our land, and of spiritual blessings to his own people?"

"GIVE, AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN UNTO US."

Respectfully submitted,

O. F. GREGORY, Chairman.

A communication was received from Dr. J. H. Johnson, Principal of the Alabama Institution for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind, inviting the Convention to visit the Institution.

On motion, resolved, that the thanks of the body be returned to Dr. Johnson for his kind invitation, and that a committee be appointed to visit the Institution, as representatives of this body—O. F. Gregory, H. A. Haralson, J. O'B. Lowry, E. T. Smyth, A. Lawson, J. G. Harris, E. J. Forrester, B. B. Davis.

Referred the report of the Committee to which was referred the report of the State Mission Board, to the Mass Meeting to-night.

Appointed Committee to report on the time and place of the next meeting of the Convention—R. W. Beek, W. T. Hatchett, R. C. Keeble, J. G. Apsey, G. S. Ham.

Report of Committee to nominate State Mission Board and Board of Education adopted as follows:

STATE MISSION BOARD.

J. J. D. Renfroe, President; T. M. Bailey, Corresponding Secretary; S. Henderson, E. T. Smyth, J. H. Joiner, I. B. Merriam, John Henderson.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

J. B. Hawthorne, O. F. Gregory, Jas. Crook, J. S. Paullin, T. W. Tobey, W. E. Lloyd, A. J. Waldrop, J. P. Shaffer, J. G. Harris.

Made the report of the Committee on Home Missions the special order for 3½ P. M. to-day.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. R. W. Inzer.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

3 P. M.

Prayer by Rev. S. G. Jenkins.

Minutes read and approved.

Recognized Rev. W. N. Chaudoin as representative of the Home Mission Board.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Sabbath School enterprise, numbering on our continent about one hundred thousand schools, one million officers and teachers, and more than six millions of scholars,—is a wonderful enterprise! How astonishing its progress in the last twenty-five years! How irresistible its onward speed! It flies abroad like a winged messenger of light! Its arms of beneficence reach outward and forward and upward. It sings with myriad voices. Its mighty heart pulsates with restless vigor, sending its life-blood through countless veins and pores in the body of social and religious society. The joy of its friends, it is the confusion of its enemies. To oppose it, is folly; to criticise it, is to sit in embers and quarrel with the moon. Favor or disfavor it, it is up and moving, a mighty thing in the world. It has its day and must have its history. *It has done great good.* It has developed a rich mine of fine talent, and tuned ten thousand voices with sweetest song. The voices once slumbered in the crude mass of uncultured obscurity. In your cities and towns, and villages, on the far off mountain top, or in the lonely valley, these voices now would entertain angels. Like some grand lever power in moral forces, the Sabbath School enterprise has lifted up and harmonized this world

of musical talent. You feel like rendering your heartiest thanks to God, and pronouncing your warmest benedictions on the children, when you hear their consonant voices in the humble log meeting house, on the silent mountain top, or in the pensive valley. Like chimes of golden bells, those sweet youthful voices ring out through forest, hill and air. And what is this these children sing? It is one of the countless productions which but for the Sabbath School enterprise, had never been born. Here, too, is a safe place for children to assemble. The Sabbath School attended, breaks up the marble yard, the fishing gang, the lounging group, the gabbling riddle, and other viler associations of the young on the day of the Lord. It leads children to place a higher estimate on God's word, to have a profound reverence for his house, and reminds them constantly of the sacredness of the Sabbath. It looks still further,—to the dying hour and the judgment day. God saves whom he will, according to his eternal purpose. Yet he hath appointed the means to reach the end. The Almighty does nothing by first causes alone. Instrumentality is Jehovah's fixed pathway to the accomplishment of his eternal designs. To question the Lord when duty is plain, is presumption. To neglect the performance of plain duty, is rebellion. To distrust him who promiseth when duty is performed, is infidelity.

The Sabbath School enterprise has yet much to do. Every Church must have a Sabbath School. If it is good for one, its good for all. If it is a blessing and a benefit, let all enjoy it. Every church so blessed should desire and work and pray that every other enjoy a like blessing. A Sabbath School in each Church throughout the land would date a new era in evangelical Christianity, and girdle the clouds of error with a new bow of promise for the triumphs of truth. The entrance of God's word giveth light. Accompany the faithful proclamation of the Gospel with the reading and study of the Bible by the masses, and you have the sum total of all the moral forces appointed for the salvation of souls. And nothing looks with more promise to universal Bible reading than does the Sabbath School enterprise. It looks with hopeful promise also to the militant kingdom of Christ awake and at work. What a glorious achievement! How grand the spectacle! Every Church alive and breathing blessings on the multitudes! Every member finding something to do and doing something! Then would the Savior love to dwell among his people.

What are the duties of the friends of this enterprise? To urge it forward is a duty taken for granted. But there are cautionary duties. Everything must be furnished with checks and balances. Especially so of things of great magnitude, mighty speed and momentum. The sweeping railroad train must have its breaks and breaksmen. The proud ship at sea must be supplied with her anchorage. The enthusiastic army must be accustomed to the order,—*Halt!* as well as the command,—*Forward!* Our nature is prone to extremes in everything. Aroused from a state of stupid indifference, it may rush heedlessly over to a state of wildest enthusiasm. To harmonize men's actions in one thing where there is discord in many things, is no easy matter. It requires the truest spirit of conservatism, an unvarnished spirit of plety, unostentatious candor and generosity, unsigned charity and fervent prayer.

In closing this report, it is telling no secret to say, the Baptists sustain a relation to this enterprise peculiar and delicate. Where others have nothing at stake in external organism, Baptists have all to risk.

Resolved, That Baptists may consistently co-operate with other Christians in this great work.

Resolved, That, in doing so, they should have a jealous care for their peculiar views.

W. WILKES, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Home Missions, after discussion, amendment and a collection amounting to \$55.75 in cash and \$55 in pledges, adopted as follows:

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

The policy of our Home Board during the past year seems to have been *retrenchment*; that as soon as possible it might owe no man anything. The measure of its adherence to this policy has been determined by the measure of its resources. The latter being rather circumscribed, its plans and oper-

tions have not been as aggressive as would have been practicable, and certainly desirable under other circumstances. The calls for help have been as numerous, perhaps, as ever before; the demands as urgent, and the objects as deserving; but amid the perplexity, we believe that the Board has ever made a judicious discrimination in its appropriations.

The fact to be lamented, is not that our limited resources have not been carefully husbanded and wisely expended, but that the great objects aimed at have not been fostered with that munificence which they deserved, and which might reasonably have been expected of us if the financial strength of our people is the exponent of their duty. It is, we believe, an acknowledged truth that Baptists with all their missionary zeal, give less to the cause of missions than any of the evangelical denominations. For Missionary Baptists not to surpass in missionary zeal, all others is a reproach, since our name creates the expectation.

How to meet the increasing demands of our Missionary Boards, is a problem which *practically* remains unsolved. The Scriptural plan of systematic benevolence may become a practical solution of the difficulty, through the active agency of the Pastors of our Churches, in their pulpit ministrations, fixing it upon the consciences of our people, not as a matter of policy, but of Christian duty. The provisions of that plan, we believe, are sufficient to meet all the demands of the Church. What we need specially at present, is not so much to increase the amount contributed by each individual, as to increase the *number of contributors*.

The cause of Missions so humane—so full of the spirit of Christianity—needs no argument to enforce it; but it *does need* to be brought continually before the minds of our people. To do this, we should have, at least occasional services in our Churches for the special considerations of missions. This should claim a larger portion of our sermons, and be oftener the burden of our prayers and the subject of our praises. Thus the conscience might be aroused, and the heart won. Until the Pastors of our Churches, moved as by a common impulse to this work, bring up the *many* to the help of the *few*, our Missionary Boards will be distressed with financial embarrassment, and the cause of missions languish.

Another help to the end which we are aiming at, would be doubtless to have our Sabbath School Superintendents and teachers impressed with the importance of training the little ones *to give*, and teaching them early in life to deny themselves for the sake of others, that we may leave behind us a generation that shall be Missionary Baptists in deed and in truth.

Again, it is to be hoped that the influence and capabilities of our sisterhood for usefulness are to be made more available in the future than may have been in the past. It is to be regretted that this great conservatory of strength and moral force has not been sooner brought into more general requisition. We believe that with proper encouragement, upon the new fields for female usefulness, that our advancing Christianity is opening up, will be expanded with these latent energies.

Since the Southern Baptist Convention has suggested a plan of woman's work, and since the Boards of the Convention are engaged in carrying out that plan, we urge our Churches to adopt it, and request the Boards of the Convention to report the results of these agencies and efforts, within the bounds of the State.

Respectfully submitted,
J. H. KINNEBREW, Chairman.
C. W. HARE.
I. B. MERRIAM.

The President announced the following Standing Committees, to-wit:

On Sabbath Schools—E. T. Smyth, J. A. B. Besson, B. H. Crumpton, T. L. Jones, A. J. Slaughter, J. H. Joiner, George Siddons.

On the evangelization of the colored race—S. Henderson, E. B. Teague, I. T. Tichenor, C. E. Thames, R. H. Moulton, W. H. Patterson, J. E. Bell.

On Foreign Missions—W. W. Sanders, I. C. Brown, T. W. Tobey, E. J. Forrester, J. W. Bishop, T. B. Thunes, N. F. Miles.

On Education—John F. Lanneau, J. H. Kinnebrew, W. C. Cleveland, J. A. Howard, W. S. Rogers, J. E. Bell, H. S. D. Mallory.

On Home Missions—Porter King, M. N. Eley, H. C. Taul, J. S. Paullin, L. Law, W. T. Simmons, W. P. Welch.

Report of Committee to nominate Delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention adopted, viz:

W. C. Cleveland, W. G. Curry, G. R. Farnham, J. O'B. Lowry, O. F. Gregory, M. T. Sumner, Z. D. Roby, E. T. Smyth, J. B. Hawthorne, W. W. Sanders, J. J. D. Renfroe, S. Henderson, B. A. Jackson, J. Haralson, T. M. Bailey, R. W. Beck, J. C. Stratford, L. T. Tichenor, N. B. Williams, L. W. Lawler, T. W. Tobey, B. B. Davis, P. M. Calloway, A. P. Norris, J. F. Lanneau, P. King, E. F. Baber, J. L. Sampey, L. R. Gwaltney, E. T. Winkler, J. T. Murfee, J. H. Foster, A. J. Waldrop, J. Crook, P. M. Musgrove, E. B. Teague, C. E. Thunes, B. W. Bussey, Wm. A. Davis, J. A. Howard, C. R. Cross, H. C. Taul, R. C. Keeble, J. L. Williams, J. Headen, J. W. Bishop, E. S. Shorter, J. L. West, J. P. Shaffer, W. S. Rogers, C. D. Woodruff, to whom, on motion, were added the members of the Committee, to-wit: J. H. Hendon, B. H. Crumpton, J. S. Yarbrough, W. Wilkes, J. H. Kinnebrew, H. S. D. Mallory.

W. C. Ward's amendment to the 8th Article of the Constitution, proposed at the last session, was adopted, so that the Article as amended reads: "The business of this Constitution shall be to encourage and promote, by all proper means, the following objects, viz: State, Foreign and Domestic and Indian Missions," &c.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. B. B. Williams.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

At the Mass Meeting the subject of State Missions was discussed by Brethren Renfroe, Harris and Hawthorne.

The collection taken in cash and pledges, for the salary of the Corresponding Secretary, Rev. T. M. Bailey, amounted to \$1303 70.

MORNING SESSION.

SATURDAY, 8th A. M.

Devotional Exercises for one half hour were conducted by Rev. V. H. Dean.

Convention called to order by the President.

Prayer by Bro. J. P. Shaffer.

Minutes read and approved.

An opportunity was given to the Rev. C. M. Booth, (col.) Messenger from the Colored Missionary Baptist State Convention, to make some remarks relative to the educational movements of the Convention he represented, which he did in a manner calculated to excite kindly interest.

The report of the State Mission Board and the report of the Committee to which this report was referred, after remarks by Rev. B. H. Crumpton, with reference to the wants of our denomination in Pensacola, was adopted, as follows:

REOPRT OF THE STATE MISSION BOARD.

Soon after the adjournment of the Convention last year, the Board met and took into prayerful consideration the best means of extending the work entrusted to it. By grouping several Associations together, connecting the weaker with the stronger bodies, a number of fields were marked out, and the Corresponding Secretary was instructed to visit the Churches and Associations in these fields, to secure co-operation—raise funds and consult with brethren as to suitable men to occupy them. In this work valuable aid was rendered by members of the Board and others. Wherever this work was presented, it was heartily endorsed. We know of but one Association that refused co-operation. The General Association of South East Alabama was visited by the Corresponding Secretary, in conjunction with a Committee from the Eufaula Association, and its co-operation was secured in placing a Missionary in the vast destitution in the South East portion of the State.

Pledges from individuals, Churches and Associations, were secured for the support of the work, so that the Board felt justified in looking out for and appointing men to occupy the field. The Churches and Associations were unanimous in demanding that none but effective men should be called to the work. To find the class of men demanded, with no support to offer them, but such as could be gathered from their respective fields by their own efforts, aided by the efforts of the Corresponding Secretary, was not a little perplexing to the Board. However, seven brethren, able, earnest ministers, and who had been successful as pastors, were appointed, and entered upon the work as soon as their engagements with their Churches would permit them.

These brethren have manifested a truly apostolic spirit; they have been instant in season and out of season, and under many difficulties, and the exercise of great self-denial have done an amount of work that the pastor ordinarily knows nothing of. Deploring the inactivity that characterizes so many of our Churches, and consequent want of interest in our denominational enterprises, our Missionaries were instructed to visit the Churches, and aid the pastors in stirring up our people to greater diligence in the things of Christ. In doing this, they have been well received, and cordially welcomed to the Churches by the pastors. Seven hundred and seventy Churches have been visited by them, and they have been enabled in many cases to strengthen the things that remain, and that were ready to die. Wherever they have been, they have inculcated the missionary spirit, and as a consequence, contributions for the Master's cause have come to us from Churches heretofore unaccustomed to give.

As a prominent feature of our work, which promises blessed results, the Churches are encouraged to meet together every Lord's day for prayer, praise, and the study of God's Word, and it must be highly gratifying to the Convention to know, that in the fields in which our brethren have been laboring, one hundred and ninety-one Churches meet at their respective houses of worship, every Lord's day.

The Board is now operating in thirty-three Associations, and is reaching out in its work to a destitution especially on our Southern border, never before reached by Alabama Baptists. The good work has just begun. A majority of our Missionaries have been but a little over six months at work, and none of them over nine months, and yet in view of what has been accomplished, your Board feels that we have great reason to "thank God and take courage."

But there remains yet much land to be possessed. Calls loud and earnest have come to us from other portions of the State not occupied by the Board. The grand valley of the Tennessee offers an inviting field for evangelistic labors. Again and again have calls come to us for help from various parts of that great valley, but as yet they are unheeded for want of means. Shall they call in vain? Two strong men should be sent at once to that valley. An earnest man of God could be profitably employed in building up the many weak Churches in towns and villages on our railroad lines. More attention is demanded to central points in our mineral regions. Seven more men at least are required to occupy the State as we are now occupying a portion of it. Ten thousand dollars should be given the coming Conventional year by Alabama Baptists for the evangelization of their own State. Shall we have it? Brethren, let us go up and possess this goodly land of ours for Christ, for we are

able. Let us take for our motto: "A Baptist Church in every community—meeting every Lord's day—its membership putting forth personal efforts for the salvation of men, and giving of their means for the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

REPORTS OF MISSIONARIES.

Rev. E. F. Baber reports 39 weeks service, 171 sermons preached, 17 addresses delivered, 20 subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured, 14 Sabbath Schools organized, 6 baptisms, 4 district meetings attended, one minister and one deacon assisted in ordaining, 50 Churches in his field meeting every Lord's day, \$89 raised to secure a pastor for a Church, 80 Churches visited, 1741 miles travelled.

Rev. T. M. Burbour reports 39 weeks service, 96 sermons preached, 18 addresses delivered, 10 subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured, 9 Sabbath Schools organized, 8 baptisms, 1 received by letter, 2 restored, 2 deacons assisted in ordaining, 6 Churches in his field meeting every Lord's day, 74 Churches visited, 1509 miles travelled.

Rev. P. E. Kliven reports 36 weeks service, 137 sermons preached, 14 addresses delivered, 57 subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured, 3 Sabbath Schools organized, 1 baptism, 3 district meetings attended, 40 Churches meeting every Lord's day, 94 Churches visited, \$10 collected for Foreign Missions, 1735 miles travelled.

Rev. H. A. Williams reports 231 sermons preached, 33 addresses delivered, 13 subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured, 1 baptism, 2 received by letter, 141 Churches visited, 1272 miles travelled.

Rev. W. G. Curry reports 30 weeks service, 103 sermons preached, 21 addresses delivered, 18 subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured, 2 Sabbath Schools organized, 1 deacon assisted in ordaining, 4 prayer meetings organized, 2 Ladies' Missionary Societies organized, collected for Home Missions \$10, for Foreign Missions \$10, 65 Churches meeting every Lord's day, 84 Churches visited, 1020 miles travelled.

Rev. W. Wilkes reports 28 weeks service, 140 sermons preached, 32 addresses delivered, 48 subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured, 13 Sabbath Schools organized, \$1.75 collected for Foreign Missions, 30 Churches meeting every Lord's day, 123 Churches visited, 1376 miles travelled.

Rev. J. S. Yarbrough reports 24 weeks service, 117 sermons preached, 8 addresses delivered, 13 subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured, 6 Sabbath Schools organized, 1 baptism, 5 received by letter, 45 Churches visited, 1784 miles travelled.

Rev. T. M. Bailey, Corresponding Secretary, reports 183 sermons delivered, 114 addresses, 218 subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured, 22 Sabbath Schools organized, 13 baptisms in connection with his labors, protracted meetings attended 1, 3 district meetings attended, 10 Associational meetings attended, 1 minister and 1 deacon assisted in ordaining, 3 Ladies' Missionary Societies organized, 283 letters written, \$92 collected for Foreign Missions, \$84.25 for Home Missions, \$10 collected for Theological Seminary, \$20 for Judson Female Institute, \$503.50 raised in cash and pledges for Theological Students in Howard College, 129 Churches visited, 6465 miles travelled.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Weeks service, 282; sermons preached, 1118; addresses delivered, 357; subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* secured, 428; Sabbath Schools organized, 77; prayer meetings organized, 4; Ladies' Missionary Societies organized, 6; baptisms, 17; baptisms in connection with labors, 13; received by letter, 8; restored, 2; deacons assisted in ordaining, 6; ministers, 2; district meetings attended, 10; Associational meetings, 10; collected for Theological Seminary, \$10; Judson Institute, \$20; for Theological students Howard College, \$503.50; for Foreign Missions, \$112; for Home Missions, \$91.25; Churches constituted, 1; Churches visited, 770; Churches meeting every Lord's day in territory occupied, 191; miles travelled, 17,502.

On motion, resolved, that this Convention refers the claims of the city of Pensacola to the favorable consideration of the State Mission Board.

The report of the Committee to which was referred the report of the publisher of the *Alabama Baptist*, after remarks by brethren Lawler, Tichenor, Kinnebrew, H. A. Haralson, and Hawthorne, and after amendment, was unanimously adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ALABAMA BAPTIST.

Your Committee on the *Alabama Baptist*, having duly considered all the information furnished us, report the following recommendations:

1. That the Editorial and Business Management of the paper, heretofore annually provided for by the Convention, shall now be permanently transferred to Rev. E. T. Winkler, D. D., and Rev. J. L. West.
2. That the conditions of this transfer are: 1. That the paper shall be faithfully employed as an agency for the dissemination of Baptist principles, and the support of Baptist influences and interests in every part of Alabama.
2. That in case of a proposed sale in future, this Convention shall have the refusal as purchaser at the rates of any *bona fide* offer made by another party.
3. That in order to complete this transfer now, the President and Secretary are hereby authorized and required, on behalf of this Convention, to enter into written contract with the parties named above.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOSHUA H. FOSTER,
LEVI W. LAWLER,
J. B. HAWTHORNE,
A. P. BUSH,
J. H. HENDON,
G. R. FARNHAM,
PORTER KING.

The Committee on Religious Exercises reported the following:

To-night, at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ at Baptist Church, preaching by Rev. E. J. Forrester.

To-night, at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ at Methodist Church, preaching by Rev. T. W. Tobey.

On Sabbath, at 9 A. M., Sabbath School Address by Rev. J. S. Paullin.

On Sabbath, at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ A. M., Baptist Church, preaching by Rev. J. B. Hawthorne, D. D.

On Sabbath, at 4 P. M., Baptist Church, Mass Meeting for Sunday Schools.

On Sabbath, at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ P. M., Baptist Church, preaching by Rev. E. T. Winkler, D. D.

On Sabbath, at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ A. M., M. E. Church, preaching by Rev. O. F. Gregory.

On Sabbath, at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ P. M., M. E. Church, preaching by Rev. E. B. Teague, D. D.

On Sabbath, at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ A. M., Presbyterian Church, preaching by Rev. J. O'B. Lowry.

On Sabbath, at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ P. M., Presbyterian Church, preaching by Rev. Z. D. Roby.

On Sabbath, at 3 P. M., Colored Baptist Church, preaching by Rev. J. H. Hendon.

Report of Committee on Education read, and after remarks by Rev. Dr. Teague, Rev. Dr. Hawthorne, Rev. J. O'B. Lowry, and Rev. E. F. Baber, the further consideration of it was postponed till 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ P. M.

Resolved., That the Board of Trustees of Howard College be instructed to hold a meeting in connection with the meeting of this Convention.

Report of Committee on Resolutions in regard to aged and infirm ministers, read and laid on table, to be called up after the disposition of the report of the Committee on Education.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. J. S. Dill.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

3 P. M.

Prayer by Rev. Z. D. Roby.

Minutes read and approved.

Resolved., That the State Mission Board be instructed to report to the Home Mission Board the amount expended by said Board in accordance with the action of the Southern Baptist Convention in regard to representation.

Resolved., That when this Convention adjourns, it will adjourn to meet in Birmingham, on Thursday before the third Sunday in July, 1879.

Report of the Board of Trustees of the Judson Female Institute adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE JUDSON FEMALE INSTITUTE.

Your Board submit this, their report, with hearts filled with gratitude to Almighty God, that whilst, during the session just closed, disease and death have held high carnival in portions of our land, His arm has been lovingly to shield and protect the inmates of your Institution from the shafts of that fatal archer, death.

After the experience of another year with Dr. Gwaltney as President of the Judson, your Board can, with pleasure, reiterate their profoundest convictions as to his eminent fitness and qualifications, to discharge the delicate and responsible duties of the office to which he has been elected.

A corps of teachers, competent and skilled to instruct in the various departments, have been elected for the ensuing year, it being the aim of the President, in consultation with the Board, to employ teachers *only of the first class.*

Whilst the pupils, in the departments of art and music, are required, before receiving their degree, to attain a proficiency and skill rarely reached, the studies in the literary course are not abated.

The Boarding Department will continue in the future, as in the past, under the immediate supervision of the President and his family. Teachers and pupils all dine at the same table.

During the past session there have been 118 pupils, of whom eleven, having completed the prescribed course of studies, received their diplomas, on Commencement Day. In addition to these, gold medals were awarded to two Excelsior graduates, and one received a gold medal for superior attainments in music.

The Exercises of the late Commencement were specially interesting and entertaining, and were attended by a larger number of visitors than have been seen for many years, all of whom expressed the highest gratification.

During the year there was a gracious revival of religion, among the pupils of the Institution, some twenty having experienced a pardon of their sins, through the atoning blood of Christ, and followed the footsteps of their Master into the watery grave; and like Him, were baptized.

The Judson as now equipped affords advantages and facilities for higher education equalled by few, and surpassed by no institution in the south.

While the expenses may seem higher than those of institutions in other localities, when the very superior advantages afforded by the Judson are considered, they are not, in fact, no first class institutions, and first class accommodations cannot be afforded for a less price.

To all who would have their daughters thoroughly educated, their manners accomplished and refined, and their wants and comforts supplied, the trustees can and do most cordially recommend the Judson.

PORTER KING, President.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HOWARD COLLEGE TO THE ALABAMA BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

For some years past, under the Divine blessing, we have been enabled to report a steady improvement of the internal working of Howard College; and to-day we can refer to it as a monument of what time and well-directed effort can accomplish under the most disadvantageous circumstances. During the session just closed, 124 students have been matriculated. Of these, 12 were Theological students. At the last commencement, the degrees of the College were conferred on 13 graduates. Three of these were in the Law Department; two took the degree of A. M.; five that of A. B., and three the degree of B. S.

The law school of the College, which was established a year ago, has brought out good results, as is proven by the examination of students in this Department.

The Military Department has not been made compulsory, and its duties are so regulated as not to interfere with the regular curriculum of the College. No guard duty is required, and all drilling is done after College exercises of the day. The latest improved arms and equipments have been furnished by the State, through His Excellency, Gov. Houston.

The financial condition of the College has been somewhat improved since our last report. Our efficient and energetic President, Dr. J. T. Murfee, and able corps of instructors, have been re-engaged.

During the past year, for various causes, no effort towards accumulating an endowment has been made. But recognizing the fact (as we have for many years) that whatever may be wanting in this respect, must be made up by the character of work done; our Faculty have been zealous in their exertions for the improvement of the students.

The results as manifested at the close of the session, elicited universal admiration from those who attended the public examinations. These examinations, which are always both written and oral, and of the most rigid character, have shown that the students possess a thorough acquaintance with the subjects taught, and a discipline of mind seldom acquired in a college course.

The results that are being achieved by Howard College are obtained in a great measure from three sources:

1st. The corps of Theological students (which for several years has been composed of young men of sterling worth) serves as a nucleus of moral and religious influence on which to build character.

2d. The Discipline of the College being such as to weed out promptly all unpromising subjects—the temptations to vice and immorality are at once withdrawn from others who might be led astray.

3d. The mode of instruction, which leaves no time for idleness without its prompt detection and correction.

Through the energetic application of these means, the young men that have received the impress of your College, have taken the lead in whatever vocation of life they have subsequently pursued. If the Baptists of Alabama would have their College maintain the high position it now holds, they must give it their patronage and influence. We fear that the importance of this course is not sufficiently appreciated. We would not insist upon this, if we were not convinced that as much, if not more, in a thorough, practical and useful education, can be obtained at Howard College in a given length of time, and all things considered as economically as in any other institution of the kind.

Not only is the utmost attention given to the training of the mind and the imparting of an eminently practical education, but the moral and religious character has received special consideration. We are gratified in being enabled to report to you that in this respect your College is accomplishing that which, perhaps, was pre-eminent in the minds and hearts of its noble Christian founders. With their prayers and alms they laid its foundations and reared its walls, not alone that the mind should there receive training in the arts and sciences, but that character, Christian character, should adorn the scholar. What nobler bequest to posterity than the establishment of the means through which the characters of our representative men shall savor of the teachings of our Blessed Master! May we not hope that the work begun by them will be taken up at an early day by their worthy sons and made what their fondest hopes desired that it should be?

WM. W. WILKERSON, President.

Report of Committee on Education adopted as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

As Baptists and as citizens of Alabama, we have cause to congratulate ourselves, and thank God for the indications of a forward movement in the cause of Education throughout our State. Alabama seems to be catching the spirit of the times, as is shown not only by the progress made not only in the development of her natural resources, but in her demands for a higher Education and a more liberal culture. As citizens, we recognize with gladness, the increased interest manifested in our State institutions, but as Baptists, we hail with peculiar delight, and with something of natural pride, the large success of those institutions we love and cherish.

Since the last meeting of this Convention our Theological Seminary has been removed from Greenville South Carolina, the home of its birth and early manhood to Louisville Kentucky. The largely increased attendance and the thorough work of the last session have shown, we think, that the change was for good. It cannot be doubted, that there is for this institution a grand future. The faculty of the Seminary need no commendation before this Convention, and the recent removal bids fair to bring them opportunity of enlarged usefulness in the training of our ministry. The last session closed with five "Full Graduates," and three "English Graduates." There were ninety students matriculated, and the large number of those who were graduated in the several schools, show how earnestly and thoroughly they did their work. We earnestly bespeak the sympathy, the prayers, and the money of this Convention, and its constituency for the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. To our thinking it is the most important interest fostered by the Southern Baptist Convention, and we who have a share in the work of that body, surely must press this interest, lovingly, ardently to our hearts.

The Reports of the Boards of Trustees of the Howard College and the Judson Female Institute are at once gratifying and highly encouraging. There is everything in the success reported, to urge us to an enthusiastic support of these cherished institutions, and to inspire confidence in their worth and stability. We believe that the great work which these institutions have already accomplished, is but the earnest of the yet greater and richer blessings which they are to confer upon the Baptists of Alabama. We wish to make just one point in regard to Howard College. The Board of Trustees, the President and the Faculty, propose to conduct the institution, on strictly business principles. They charge tuition fees, but for such fees, they propose to give value received. They intend not only to do the best they can, with the material sent them to work upon, but if that material should chance to be of such a character that nothing serviceable can be made of it they feel bound to return it, and not continue to receive pay for the moulding they cannot do. It is no charitable institution. It does not beg, nor does it propose to educate your sons for nothing. For the Judson whose daughters bless and grace so many of our Southern homes, too much can hardly be said by way of urging the people to place their daughters under its influence. Our people are not giving a tithe of the attention they ought to Female Education. It is of paramount importance to the welfare of our country, that the mothers of our citizens and statesmen should be thoroughly educated.

While we rejoice in the present success and bright prospects of those institutions which came immediately under the control of this Convention we wish to assure other worthy sister institutions of our State of our hearty sympathy and of our earnest good wishes.

Respectfully Submitted,
T. B. THAMES, Chairman.

ANNUAL REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE STATE MISSION BOARD FROM JULY 12TH, 1877, TO JULY, 1878.

To cash collected at Convention.....	\$ 59 20
From —Alabama Association.....	296 65
" Arbicoochee "	8 65
" Bethel "	540 10
" Bethlehem "	156 25
" Bigbee "	239 25
" Boiling Springs "	7 95
" Cahaba "	230 70
" Cahaba Valley "	26 85
" Canaan "	111 95
" Centennial "	279 40
" Cedar Bluff "	27 80
" Coosa River "	423 16
" Cherokee "	60 00
" Central "	5 00
" Carey "	21 05
" Eufaula "	189 97
" Elim "	24 95
" S. E. Ala. Genl. "	19 20
" Gulf Coast "	187 10
" Liberty West "	8 10
" Miscellaneous.....	1 00
" Mulberry "	10 00
" New River "	26 30
" Pine Barren "	339 41
" Salem "	33 40
" Shelby "	15 00
" Tuskegee "	100 00
" Tuscaloosa "	123 68
" Talluseehatchie "	145 20
" Unity "	83 10
" Union "	16 90
" Zion "	33 65
	<hr/>
	\$3860 92

DISBURSEMENTS.

By cash to Rev. E. F. Baber.....	\$451 55
" " Rev W. G. Curry.....	439 15
" " Rev. P. E. Kirven.....	392 30
" " Rev. T. M. Barbour.....	182 88
" " Rev. W. Wilkes.....	339 21
" " Rev. H. A. Williams.....	180 60
" " Rev. J. S. Yarbrough.....	22 75
" " Rev. T. M. Bailey.....	1511 87
" " Cor. See, on deficit of former years' salary.....	59 20
Traveling Expenses of Corresponding Secretary.....	267 40
Books and Stationery.....	5 82
Postage, &c.....	8 19
Pledges to be redeemed at Associational Meetings amounting to.....	1750 45
The Gen. Association of S. E. Ala. has paid on Rev. J. S. Yarbrough's salary.....	300 00
	<hr/>
	\$3860 92

S. H. FOWLKES, TREASURER.

In Account with *Alabama Baptist State Convention*.

		FOREIGN MISSIONS.	
July 18	To Cash from Finance Committee.....	\$47 15	
" "	" " "	25 00	
	CR.		
July	By N. B. Williams' receipt.....	\$34 00	
Mch	" H. A. Tupper's receipt.....	38 15	
		<hr/>	
	DOMESTIC MISSIONS.		
July 18	To Cash from Finance Com't. D. M.....	\$11 80	
" "	" " " L. M.....	50 60	
" "	" " " " "	20 00	
	CR.		
	By W. H. McIntosh's receipt.....	\$11 80	
July 18	" " " " "	60 60	
21	" " " " "	25 00	
		<hr/>	
	STATE MISSION BOARD.		
July 18	To Cash from Finance Committee.....	\$50 20	
	CR.		
July 18	By T. M. Bailey's receipt.....	\$50 20	
		<hr/>	
	\$50 20		\$50 20
	SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.		
July 18	To Cash from Finance Committee.....	\$18 20	
	CR.		
	By M. T. Sumner's receipt.....	\$18 20	
		<hr/>	
	\$18 20		\$18 20
	GENERAL PURPOSE AMOUNT.		
	To Cash from Finance Committee.....	\$16 75	
	" Balance.....	7 60	
	CR.		
	By balance due last report.....	8 7 60	
	" Cash paid Warren Hudson.....	10 00	
	" " " " "	6 75	
		<hr/>	
	\$24 35		\$24 35

To President and Members Alabama Baptist State Convention:

Above you have my report as Treasurer of your body, showing receipts and disbursements for the various benevolent objects under your care, for the current year ending July 18th, 1878.

Respectfully submitted,

S. H. FOWLKES, Treasurer.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Amount received for Rome Mission.....	\$150 30
" " " " "	1 25
" " " " "	55 75
" " " " "	26 20
" " " Minutes	5 75

July, 1878.

A. LAWSON, Chairman.

Resolved., To take the Report of the Committee to which was referred the resolution in reference to provision for aged and infirm ministers &c., from the table. The Report was discussed by Brethren J. G. Harris, R. C. Keeble, A. P. Bush, L. W. Lawler, James Headen H. W. Watson, and W. B. Haralson, when on motion, the Report was referred to a committee of three consisting of J. G. Harris, L. W. Lawler and H. W. Watson.

Resolved., That the Alabama Baptist has rendered efficient service to the Churches and is eminently worthy of patronage from all who have these great interests at heart.

Resolved., That we heartily commend the Alabama Baptist to the support and confidence of the Baptists of the State, and that we urge brethren in various parts of the State to contribute frequently local items to its columns.

Adjourned till after preaching to-night.

NIGHT SESSION.

9 P. M.

The Convention was called to order by Maj. J. G. Harris, Second Vice President.

Resolved., That the thanks of this Convention are due to the membership of the Talladega Baptist Church and to the people of this community for their generous hospitality, to the Churches of the place which have kindly favored us with the use of their houses of worship, and to the Railroad officials who have given us reduced fare.

Referred all unfinished business to the Board of Directors.

Resolved, that the Constitution as amended, be printed with the Minutes.

Adjourned to meet at Birmingham on Thursday before the third Sunday in July, 1879.

JONATHAN HARALSON, President.

A. B. GOODHUE,	{	Secretaries.
B. B. DAVIS,	{	

NOTE.—When the Minutes had been printed, and just as they were ready for distribution, they, together with the copy, were consumed by the fire which occurred in Marion on the night of the 24th of Sept., 1878. They have been reproduced as fully and perfectly as possible under the circumstances.

A. B. GOODHUE, Secretary.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—This body shall be known by the name of “The Baptist State Convention of Alabama;” and shall be composed of delegates from Baptist Associations and Churches, and from Missionary or other Benevolent Societies; provided that such delegates shall be members of Baptist Churches, in good standing.

ARTICLE II.—The officers of the Convention shall be a President, First and Second Vice Presidents, a Recording Secretary and a Treasurer, together with a Board of Directors, as hereinafter named, who shall be elected at each annual meeting, and who shall hold their offices until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE III.—The President, or in case of his absence, one of the Vice Presidents, in their order, shall preside at all the deliberations of the Convention, and discharge the duties usually imposed upon an executive officer of deliberate bodies.

ARTICLE IV.—The Secretary shall make a fair record of the proceedings of the Convention, and soon after the rising of each regular meeting of the body, shall attend to the printing and distribution of the Minutes of the same of which he shall preserve a file—which file shall constitute the authentic record of Convention. He shall also conduct the correspondence of the body. For his services he may receive a reasonable compensation.

ARTICLE V.—The Treasurer shall take charge of the funds of the Convention, and hold the same subject to the order of this body, or of the Board of Directors during the recess of the Convention; and he shall make an annual report of all receipts and expenditures, which shall be audited and published with the Minutes.

ARTICLE VI.—The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, with nine other brethren, shall compose the Board of Directors, five of whom shall form a quorum authorized to transact any business of the Convention during the recess thereof, and shall report their proceedings at each annual meeting of the Convention.

ARTICLE VII.—The President shall have power to call a meeting of the Board whenever the exigency of the circumstances may, in his judgment, require the same.

ARTICLE VIII.—The business of this Convention shall be, to encourage and promote, by all proper means, the following objects, viz:—State, Foreign, Domestic and Indian Missions; Bible Translation and Distribution; The Publication and Distribution of Religious Books, Tracts and Periodicals; Sunday Schools; The Education of the Youth of the Country, and especially that of Ministers of the Gospel; and all other objects sanctioned in the Gospel; *Provided*, that such persons only as are in indigent circumstances, shall be received as beneficiaries of the institutions of learning under the patronage of the Convention; *Provided further*, that all applicants for aid shall undergo an examination as to their hope in Christ and call to the Ministry, by the Board of Directors, or a Committee, appointed by the same, before they are accepted as beneficiaries.

ARTICLE IX.—The Convention shall have the supreme control of any Literary or Theological Institution, which has been, or may hereafter be originated in this body; and it shall choose for such institution, a Board of twenty-four trustees body; and serve for six years, of whom one-third shall go out of office biennially; and the said Trustees shall, on all occasions, be subject to the control of the Convention, and make an annual report to this body on the state of such institution.

ARTICLE X.—The Convention may receive funds from all such persons as may be disposed to aid in any of the benevolent purposes mentioned in the 8th Article, and it shall faithfully apply funds contributed, to the objects which may be designated by the donor—a portion, however, being taken *pro rata*, from the same for contingent expenses, in the event of the insufficiency of the general fund for that purpose.

ARTICLE XI.—The Convention may employ agents, whose duty it shall be to make collections, obtain subscriptions from societies, solicit Churches and Associations to unite with the Convention, and to further all the objects of this body.

ARTICLE XII.—The Convention shall have power to send delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention, and to any other assembly with which, in its wisdom, it may wish to communicate.

ARTICLE XIII.—The Convention shall hold its meetings at such time and place as it shall, from time to time, appoint.

ARTICLE XIV.—Any Church, Association or society, as prescribed in the 1st Article, contributing any sum, through the Convention, to one or more of the objects specified in the 8th Article, may be represented in this body, as follows:—Each Association may have ten delegates, and each Baptist Church or Benevolent Society, five.

ARTICLE XV.—Any individual member, of a Baptist Church in good standing, may be voted a life member, by the contribution of \$100, at one time, to any of the objects of this Convention. The Convention may, at its pleasure, vote any brother a life member, in consideration of long and eminent services.

ARTICLE XVI.—The funds of this Convention shall consist of voluntary contributions or donations, and not otherwise.

ARTICLE XVII.—The Convention disclaims all right of exercising authority over any Church or Association, hereby acknowledging that every Church is independent, and, within its own sphere, is accountable to no body of men on earth.

ARTICLE XVIII.—This Constitution may be altered or amended by the concurrence of three-fourths of the members present at any annual meeting, but not so as to infringe the 17th Article.

ARTICLE XIX.—All amendments or alterations of this Constitution shall be proposed at one session, and acted upon at the next.

²²⁷Instead of prescribing distinct RULES OF ORDER, *Mell's Parliamentary Practice*, so far as applicable, was adopted by the Convention for governing its deliberations.

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